

Direct-to-Home Telecasting Facility

†1601. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to provide facility of DTH (Direct to Home) telecast;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have assessed its social and protective effects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) A Group of Minister (GOM) has been constituted to consider issues connected with Direct to Home (DTH) broadcasting. The GOM is yet to finalise its recommendations in this regard.

Transmission Capacity of Patna DD Kendra

†1602. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the present capacity of transmission of Patna Station of Doordarshan;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the present transmission capacity of DD-1 and DD-2;

(c) if so, by when;

(d) whether it is proposed to extend the telecast capacity of DD-1 and DD-2 in all areas of Bihar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The power of the High Power Transmitter at Patna for telecast of DD-1 programmes is 10 KW and that of the Low Power Transmitter for telecast of DD-2 programmes is 100 Watts.

(b) and (c) The transmitter for DD-2 at Patna is being replaced by a High Power Transmitter of 10 KW power by the end of 2000-2001. There is no proposal to increase the power of the existing transmitter for DD-1 at Patna.

(d) and (e) In order to further extend Doordarshan coverage in Bihar, 10 more transmitters, 5 each for DD-1 and DD-2, are, at present, being installed.

Obligatory Law for Journalists to Disclose the Source of His Report

1603. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR:

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to bring a law which would make it obligatory for journalists to disclose all that he or she knows and his or her source about a matter which Government are busy inquiring; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND